

Message Text

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15

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 /085 W

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R 202226Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9721

INFO AMCONSUL BELIZE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NY

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 0384

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, GT, BH,UK

SUBJ: BELIZE: UK WILLING REDUCE GARRISON IF GUATEMALA AGREES TO
TALKS

REF: (A) GUATEMALA 330 (B) GUATEMALA 62

1. BRITISH CONSUL MCQUILLAN JANUARY 19 TOLD EMBOFFS AND
ARA/CEN DIRECTOR WEISSMAN THAT WHEN HE HAD GIVEN SANCHEZ
(GUATEMALAN FONOFF) THE BRITISH OFFER TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS
ON BELIZE FEBRUARY 9, SANCHEZ HAD ONCE AGAIN, AS HE HAD
OFTEN IN PREVIOUS WEEKS, PRESSED MCQUILLAN FOR SOME INDI-
CATION THAT UK INTENDED TO REDUCE THE SIZE OR EQUIPMENT
OF ITS GARRISON IN BELIZE.

2. MCQUILLAN SAID HE TOLD SANCHEZ, UNDER INSTRUCTIONS,
THAT ONCE GOG AND UK HAD REACHED AGREEMENT ON DATE AND
PLACE OF RESUMED TALKS, HE THOUGHT HE COULD ASSURE
SANCHEZ THAT EARLY AND FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION WOULD
BE GIVEN TO SOME REDUCTION IN GARRISON. MCQUILLAN
COMMENTED TO US THAT THIS FORULA WOULD ENABLE GOG
TO SAY THAT IT HAD AGREED TO DEFINITE DATE FOR RE-
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SUMPTION OF TALKS ONLY ONLY AFTER RECEIVING ASSURANCES OF

BRITISH CUTBACKS, WHILE HMG COULD SAY IT HAD AGREED TO REDUCTION IN FORCE ONLY AFTER DEFINITE AGREEMENT TO TALKS.

3. CONSUL SAID THAT THERE IS STILL SOME OPPOSITION BY THE MILITARY IN BELIZE AND LONDON TO SAY CUTBACK IN FORCES. HE ASSUMED THAT PREMIER PRICE HAD ACCEPTED THE REDUCTION (LINKED TO AGREEMENT TO RESUME TALKS) DURING HIS RECENT CONSULTATIONS IN LONDON, OR ELSE THE ASSURANCES TO THE GUATEMALANS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED.

4. MCQUILLAN SAID HE HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY WORD ON WHETHER GOG ACCEPTED THIS FORULA OR AN COMPOSITION OF GUATEMALAN DELEGATION.
ANDREWS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, NEGOTIATIONS, TROOP REDUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GUATEM00384
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760022-0453
From: GUATEMALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760139/aaaabihiy.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 GUATEMALA 330, 76 GUATEMALA 62
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <25 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BELIZE: UK WILLING REDUCE GARRISON IF GUATEMALA AGREES TO TALKS
TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, GT, BH, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006